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FOR ACTION

COUNTRY PROGRAMME RECOMMENDATION*

Chile

The Executive Director recommends that the Executive Board approve the country programme of Chile for the period 1991 to 1995 in the amount of $3,750,000 from general resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $3,200,000 in supplementary funds, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions.

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* In order to meet documentation deadlines, the present document was prepared before aggregate financial data were finalized. Final adjustments, taking into account unspent balances of programme cooperation at the end of 1990, will be contained in the "Summary of 1991 recommendations for general resources and supplementary funding programmes" (E/ICEF/1991/P/L.2).

READEX FICHE

THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

1. The democratically elected Government, which took office in Chile in March 1990, proposes to maintain an open economy, enhance exports, stimulate both national and foreign private investments and improve the living conditions of a large number of Chileans who have yet to benefit from the country's favourable economic trends.

2. In a message to the National Congress in May 1990, President Patricio Aylwin indicated that:

> "Over the past years, Chile has experienced growth and has seen important modernizations in a number of different sectors of activity. However, this positive situation coexists with very deep inequalities. If these inequalities are maintained without rapid and effective progress being made to overcome them, we run the risk of consolidating two different and antagonistic countries: one, the Chile of those who have access to modern developments and the fruits of growth; and the other, the country of those who are marginalized, socially excluded from modern life, and who find themselves transformed into a burden on society. We cannot make progress towards development if we do not at the same time make progress in the sphere of social justice. To make progress towards greater social justice means investing in people, in human capital".

3. The major objectives of the Government for the period 1990-1994 include: (a) achievement of full respect for basic human rights; (b) the democratization of public institutions; (c) the promotion of social justice by redressing the inequities affecting large numbers of Chileans; (d) encouragement of economic growth and the development and modernization of the country; (e) and regaining for Chile the place it once occupied within the international community.

4. According to a study published in October 1990, 38 per cent of Chilean families were living below the poverty line at the end of 1987. In real terms, this means that in 1987 there were 5 million people, or 44 per cent of the population, living in conditions of poverty, of whom almost 2 million were children under 15 years old. An analysis of the geographical distribution of this population group highlights the differences in the manifestations of poverty in urban and rural areas, and between the different regions of the country. One region north of Santiago, the capital, and three regions to the south, have the highest percentages of people living in poverty. Data on income distribution show a widening gap between rich and poor.

5. Chile has been successful in reducing its infant mortality rate to 20 per 1,000 live births. As the President of the Republic pointed out in his speech to the World Summit for Children: "It is possible to tackle this problem, even with limited resources. What one needs is political will and an efficient organization of the health and social services".

6. Chile has achieved the 1990 target for universal child immunization (UCI), but sustained efforts are still needed to eliminate pockets of low coverage in some areas of the country, including parts of metropolitan Santiago.

7. There has been no improvement in the national average rate of child malnutrition over the past five years despite government efforts to address this problem through primary health care (PHC) programmes. In some of the poorest areas of the country, the level of child malnutrition is well above the national average of 9 per cent, for example, in the districts of General Lagos (35 per cent), Rio Hurtado (22 per cent), Colchane (21 per cent), Alto de Carmen (21 per cent), San Pedro (16 per cent), Punitaqui (16 per cent) and Machali (15 per cent). It should be noted that the above-mentioned data include mild forms of protein-energy malnutrition.

8. Given its achievements in the sphere of child survival, Chile is now emphasizing child development and is seeking to enhance the access of young children to the integrated services they need for growth and socialization. In contrast to the improvements in indicators for child morbidity and nutrition over the past 20 years, little progress has been made in reducing childhood disability, and problems of psycho-motor development persist among children under the age of six years.

9. The sustained economic hardship suffered by the poor has accounted for the increased numbers of children in the labour market, especially those employed in the informal sector where they have no legal protection. There is evidence of increasing drug consumption and child prostitution, and the situation of street children and young offenders is a serious problem. It is estimated that, in 1988, around 200,000 children between the ages of 6 to 13 years were out of school, either because they had dropped out of the system, or because they had never had access to primary school. Some 50,000 children are currently receiving care through the protection and rehabilitation system of the National Service for Minors.

10. In past decades, Chile made impressive strides in education. The system expanded considerably and was known throughout Latin America for its quality. However, those efforts have declined over recent years, and today only one quarter of the children under five years of age have access to pre-school education. Primary education has stagnated and access to primary school is denied to many children. In 1970, expenditures in the education sector accounted for 4 per cent of the gross national product, while in 1988, this figure had been reduced to 3 per cent.

11. Despite the progress made over the years, Chilean women have lost ground and many now live in poverty. Women head 18 per cent of the poorest homes in Chile. The number of children born to single women has increased and their children are deprived of the benefits of children born to legally married couples. One child in seven born in Chile today is born to an adolescent mother.

12. While Santiago faces the most severe environmental problems as a result of pollution, there are worrying symptoms of environmental deterioration, which may be irreversible, in all regions of the country. Recent studies have identified at least 700 environmental problems in the country resulting from the lack of a sustainable environmental policy.

PROGRAMME COOPERATION, 1989-1990

13. UNICEF cooperation in the last two years was against the back-drop of complex political and institutional transition, marked by the plebiscite of 1988, the elections that followed in December 1989 and the investiture of a democratic Government in March 1990. During this period, UNICEF participated in government debates leading to the definition of new social policies.

14. UNICEF promoted the following three lines of action that focused on community- and family-based services: (a) the collection, analysis and publication of information on the living conditions of children and women; (b) the development of social policies for children and women; (c) and support for innovative programmes that have the potential for application on a national scale.

15. Many surveys and studies, undertaken within the framework of the situation analysis of children and women in Chile, have also provided important data on socio-economic disparities, the capacity of the public health delivery system, the coverage and quality of care for young children and problems of children in especially difficult circumstances. These studies have also led to the development of criteria for identifying women and children at risk, developing indicators of socio-economic disparities and determining their effects on the quality of life of children and women. The effects of cultural deprivation, the impact of poverty on the family and the process of education and socialization of Chilean children have also been studied. For two consecutive years, UNICEF has published a document entitled "Children and women: priority for social development", which has been used extensively by the new Government as a basis for designing social policies. The favourable political and social context has favoured the mobilization of political institutions and organizations to promote the interest of children.

16. UNICEF has contributed to strengthening the technical and operational capacity of governmental and non-governmental agencies to develop and implement non-formal, child-care services and to generate support for the poorest women and their families.

Lessons learned

17. In the last two years, UNICEF has learned that, in periods of political transition, strategic alliances are vital if the issue of children's and women's unmet needs are to figure on the agenda for public debate. Advocacy and information-sharing with various partners have been fundamental to the achievement of this aim. This process reaffirms the idea that an ongoing

analysis of the situation of children and women generates reliable information for promoting their interests with several audiences and contributes to the credibility of and confidence in UNICEF.

RECOMMENDED PROGRAMME COOPERATION, 1991-1995

Recommended general resources: $3 750 000
Supplementary funds: $3 200 000

Recommended programme cooperation a/
(In thousands of United States dollars)

	General resources	Supplementary funds b/	Total
Policy development and social statistics	795	-	795
Child development	820	-	820
Family health and welfare	340	360	700
Children in especially difficult circumstances	170	500	670
Children and the environment	160	-	160
Area-based services	160	2 340	2 500
Advocacy and communication	765	-	765
Programme support	540	-	540
Total	3 750	3 200	6 950

a/ The breakdown for estimated yearly expenditures is given in table 3.

b/ In addition, there are also funded supplementary funding projects shown in table 3.

Government policy

18. The Government of Chile has decided that a comprehensive social policy must be a pillar of its development strategy. The importance of meeting the basic needs of the population is being stressed as a critical factor in national development and as an essential element of the democratic process.

This approach stresses the need to ensure economic growth while protecting the vulnerable and sustaining social development. Changes in legislation relating to local authorities are being promoted, and the Government plans to implement legal provisions for safeguarding the rights of groups facing discrimination, such as women, the aged, young people and ethnic minorities. Popular participation in decision-making is also being emphasized, and efforts are being made to delegate authority and responsibility for the implementation of social programmes to the local level. Local government structures are being strengthened to enable them to play their vital role in social development.

19. The subject of the rights of the child continues to be of particular concern to the Government, as well as to a large number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the Government of Chile provides the context for extending and strengthening activities to promote the interest of the children. The new programme of cooperation will give wide publicity to the contents of the Convention and will seek effective ways of making children's voices heard on issues affecting them. Members of Parliament, religious groups, NGOs, educators and the communications media will be important allies in this undertaking. The participation of the President in the World Summit for Children, and his statement there, indicate the serious commitment of the Government to the survival, protection and development of Chilean children.

20. The Government is aware that the achievement of many goals defined in the new programme of cooperation will take longer than the current programming cycle. However, these targets and objectives have been included as programming guides for the short, medium and long term.

21. The strategies identified to achieve the proposed objectives are: (a) the reduction of regional and local socio-economic disparities; (b) the strengthening and development of the technical and managerial capacities of governmental and non-governmental institutions; (c) advocacy, social mobilization and communication for development; (d) the decentralization and democratization of political and administrative structures; (e) the implementation on a national scale of successful demonstration projects to benefit poor women and children; and (f) the strengthening of collaboration with United Nations agencies and other bodies in the design and development of social policies.

22. The components of the country programme of cooperation are: (a) policy development and social statistics; (b) social development and going to scale, which include activities linked to child development, family health, children in especially difficult circumstances and the protection of the environment; (c) advocacy, social mobilization and communication for development; and (d) local and regional social development.

Policy development and social statistics

23. UNICEF will support the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation and the Interministerial Economic and Social Committee in developing social policies that promote human development and improve the lives of children and women. The project will be implemented in collaboration with other United Nations agencies, research centres and NGOs. It covers the following activities: (a) information gathering on poverty in Chile, particularly on the conditions of children and women and on the structures for the delivery of social services; (b) training for government and NGO staff responsible for implementing social development programmes; and (c) evaluation to determine the impact of selected social programmes. UNICEF will also facilitate the exchange of information on positive experiences with other countries in the region.

Child development

24. The project is intended to increase the availability of child-care services, with an emphasis on finding appropriate non-formal alternatives that will lead to the implementation of the government policy on the care of pre-school children. UNICEF cooperation will focus on training and empowering parents and other adults who provide care and basic education for children at the community level. The staff of day-care centres will also be trained and child development materials will be made available through the National Board of Child-Care Centres and the National Foundation for Community Support.

Family health and welfare

25. The family health and welfare programme will promote family health through preventive approaches and by educating family and community members on the physical and mental health of children, women and the family. A project entitled "educational communication in looking after one's own health", to be carried out by the Ministry of Health, will be the cornerstone of the family health and welfare programme. The Ministry of Health, in conjunction with the University of Chile and the National Service for Women, will also implement a complementary programme designed to reduce the incidence of adolescent pregnancies. UNICEF will support knowledge, attitude and practice studies, the results of which will be used in programme design, for producing educational materials and for training personnel at both the institutional and the community levels.

Children in especially difficult circumstances

26. The promotion of respect for children's rights and public awareness of their situation will be the primary objective of this programme. Activities will focus on improving the quality of care provided by institutions for minors and finding non-institutional, community-based alternatives for children needing special care. The target population is children and youth, aged 6 to 16 years old, who are at risk. The programme will build on the activities already initiated during the previous cooperation period.

Children and the environment

27. UNICEF will cooperate with the National Environmental Commission, a recently created interministerial body chaired by the Minister of National Patrimony, to develop policies and design programmes for the protection of the environment, particularly those aspects that affect children and women directly. Emphasis will be placed on environmental education through formal and non-formal channels.

Advocacy and communications

28. It is the intention of the Government of Chile to increase public awareness of the causes of poverty, and its ensuing social consequences, as a way of fostering solidarity between the various sectors of Chilean society. UNICEF will support the achievement of this objective through cooperation in advocacy and communications activities. The promotion of Facts for Life will be included in these activities.

Area-based programme

29. This programme will be implemented in Araucanía, one of the poorest regions in the country. The principal objective is to increase the capacity of local and regional authorities to develop integrated social programmes that foster community participation and respond to the needs of poor children and women. Innovative strategies will be tested with a view to replicating them in other regions of the country.

Monitoring and evaluation

30. UNICEF will continue to cooperate with the Government in order to improve the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, and to make the best use of the results obtained.

TABLE 1. BASIC STATISTICS ON CHILDREN AND WOMEN

Chile (1989 and earlier years)

UNICEF country classification

Under-five mortality rate	27	(1989)	Middle U5MR
Infant mortality rate	20	(1989)	Middle IMR
GNP per capita	$ 1510	(1988)	Lower-middle GNP
Total population	13 million	(1989)	

KEY INDICATORS FOR CHILD SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT		1970	1980	1985	1989
Births	(thousands)	280	260	289	303
Infant deaths (under 1)	(thousands)	23	9	6	6
Under-five deaths	(thousands)	29	11	8	8
Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)		105	43	27	27
Infant mortality rate (under 1) (per 1,000 live births)		83	35	22	20

		About 1980	Most recent
Underweight children (under 5) (% weight for age, 1980/1986)	Moderate & severe	..	3a/
	Severe	0a/	..
Babies with low birth weight (%, 1979/1986)		13	7
Children completing primary level (% of first grade,1980/1985)		..	33

NUTRITION INDICATORS		About 1980	Most recent
Mothers breast-feeding at 3/6/12 months (%, 1980/1986)		../../..	81*/ 57*/ 20*
Prevalence of wasting (%, 1980/1986)		11	1
Prevalence of stunting (%, 1980/1986)		..	10b/
Daily per capita calorie supply (% of requirements, 1979-1981/1984-1986)		108	106
Food production per capita index (Index 1979-1981=100, 1980/1989)		98	111
Household expenditure (% of total income, 1980-1985)	All food/cereals		29/ 7

HEALTH INDICATORS		About 1980	Most recent
ORT use rate (%, 1987-1988)			1
Access to health services	Total	..	97
(% of population, 1980/1985)	Urban/rural	../..	../..
Access to safe water	Total	84	94*
(% of population, 1980/1985)	Urban/rural	100/ 17	98*/ 71*
Access to adequate sanitation	Total	86	85
(% of population, 1980/1985)	Urban/rural	100/ 10	100/ 4
Births attended by trained personnel (%, 1979/1986)		90	98
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births, 1979/1986)		..	47

Immunization		1981	1985	1988	1989
One-year-olds (%) immunized against:	Tuberculosis	100	92	98	95
	DPT	97	91	96	95
	Polio	96	90	96	95
	Measles	93	92c/	95	91
Pregnant women (%) immunized against	Tetanus	..	..	0	..

/...

TABLE 1 (continued)

Chile

EDUCATION INDICATORS		About 1980	Most recent
Primary enrolment ratio (gross/net)	Total	112/ ..	100/ 89
(%, 1980/1989)	Male	113/ ..	101/ ..
	Female	111/ ..	99/ ..
Secondary enrolment ratio (gross/net)	Total	53/ ..	75/ 58
(%, 1980/1989)	Male	50/ ..	72/ ..
	Female	57/ ..	78/ ..
Adult literacy rate, 15 years & older	Total	89	92
(%, 1970/1985)	Male/female	90/ 88	93/ 92
Radio/television sets			
(per 1,000 population, 1980/1988)		330/144	338/183

DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS		1970	1980	1985	1989	2000**
Total population	(millions)	9.5	11.1	12.1	13.0	15.3
Population aged 0-15 years	(millions)	..	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.8
Population aged 0-4 years	(millions)	..	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5
Urban population (% of total)		75	81	84	86	89
Life expectancy at birth	Total	62	69	71	72	73
(years)	Male	59	66	68	68	69
	Female	65	73	75	75	76
Total fertility rate		4.0	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)		30	24	24	24	20
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)		10	7	6	6	7

		About 1980	Most recent
Contraceptive prevalence rate		43	..
(%, 1978/1987)			
Population annual growth rate	Total	1.8	1.7
(%, 1965-1980/1980-1989)	Urban	2.6	2.3

ECONOMIC INDICATORS		About 1980	Most recent
GNP per capita annual growth rate		..	-0.1
(%, 1965-1980/1980-1988)			
Inflation rate (%, 1965-1980/1980-1988)		130	21
Population in absolute poverty	Urban/rural	../..	12*/ 20*
(%, 1977/1987)			
Household income share	Top 20%/bottom 40%	../..	54*/ 13*
(%, 1977/1985)			
Government expenditure	Health/education	7/ 15	4*/ 12*
(% of total expenditure, 1980/1989)	Defence	12	..
Household expenditure	Health/education		5/ 6
(% of total income, 1980-1985)			
Official development assistance:	$US millions	-10	44
(1980/1988)	As % of GNP	0	0
Debt service			
(% of goods & services exports, 1980/1988)		22	15

a/ Aged 0-71 months.

b/ Aged 24-71 months.

c/ Aged 1-5 years.

Definitions, sources and symbols are described in the section preceding these data sheets.

* UNICEF field office source.

** United Nations Population Division projections based on past and current trends.

TABLE 2. EXPENDITURE UNDER PREVIOUS COOPERATION PERIOD, 1989-1990

(In thousands of United States dollars)

COUNTRY: CHILE
LATEST BOARD APPROVAL: 1989
GENERAL RESOURCES: $400,000

	Supplies and equipment (incl. freight)		Training grants		Project staff		Other cash		Totals		
	GR	FSF	GR	FSF	GR	FSF	GR	FSF	GR	FSF	Total
Health	13				38		107		158		158
Nutrition							3		3		3
Education							12	51	12	51	63
Community organization and development				7				120		127	127
Children in especially difficult circumstances								20		20	20
Advocacy	6				30		115		151		151
Planning and project support					129	3	135	9	264	12	276
Freight	32								32		32
GRAND TOTAL	51			7	197	3	372	200	620	210	830

GR = General resources.
FSF = Funded supplementary funding.

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TABLE 3. PLANNED EXPENDITURE, 1991-1995

(In thousands of United States dollars)

Country: CHILE Period covered: 1991-1995	Funding status	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	Total
Community organization and development	GR	327	268	275	230	230	1330
	FSF	155					155
	NSF		280	231	206	143	860
Environment	GR		10	60	50	40	160
Social mobilization and advocacy	GR	127	147	159	166	166	765
Planning and social statistics	GR	116	135	146	194	204	795
	FSF	43					43
Programme support	GR	100	110	110	110	110	540
Integrated area-based programme	GR	80	80				160
	NSF	680	780	530	350		2340
	GR	750	750	750	750	750	3750
	FSF	198					198
	NSF	680	1060	761	556	143	3200
		1628	1810	1511	1306	893	7148

GR = General resources.
NSF = New supplementary funding.
FSF = Funded supplementary funding.

TABLE 4. STAFFING FROM BUDGET AND PROGRAMME FUNDS

COUNTRY: CHILE	Number of posts	Amount (thousands of United States dollars)
FINANCED FROM 1992-1993 PROPOSED BUDGET:		
International Professional established posts	2	478
Local national Professional and General Service established posts	7	586
Operating costs		525
Total	9	1589
FINANCED FROM PROGRAMME FUNDS: a/		
International Professional project posts		
General resources		
Supplementary funds	1	203
Local national Professional and General Service project posts		
General resources	7	577
Supplementary funds	2	105
Total	10	885

a/ For information source, see 1992 post authorization table, dated January 1991.